## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of enabling a user to set a value ~~for~~ across a plurality of network objects representing one or more portions of a plurality of different network device types on a communications network, the method comprising acts of:

(A) providing a user interface that enables the user to indicate a ~~first~~ user-specified value for which to set the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types by specifying the ~~first~~ user-specified value only once, wherein the act of providing a user interface comprises the acts of:

(1) concurrently displaying values of network objects on a display, including values of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types, to the user;

(2) receiving ~~one or more~~ user inputs~~, the one or more user inputs~~ to concurrently select a set of ~~specifying~~ the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types, the set of the plurality of network objects having the value the user desires to set to the user-specified value; and

(3) receiving ~~a~~ the user-specified value from the user for the set of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types; and

(B) in response to receiving an instruction from the user, initiating setting ~~a~~ the object value of each member of the set of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types equal to the ~~first~~ user-specified value.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a first network object of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types resides on a first network device and a second network object of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types resides on a second network device,

wherein act (B) comprises initiating a transmission of a first message, destined for the first network device, configured to set a value of the first network object to the ~~first~~ user-

specified value, and initiating a transmission of a second message, destined for the second network device, configured to set a value of the second network object to the ~~first~~ user-specified value.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the user interface includes a graphical user interface.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:

act (A)(l) includes displaying a first table to a user on the display, the first table including a plurality of rows and at least a first column representing a first object type of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types, each of plurality of the rows including a cell for the first column that stores a value for one of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types;

act (A) further comprises an act of: (4) displaying a second table to the user on the display concurrently to displaying the first table, the second table including one or more columns, each column of the second table corresponding to a respective one of the columns of the first table; and

act (A)(3) includes receiving the user-specified value from the user for a column of the second table that corresponds to the first column of the first table.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein:

act (A)(2) includes receiving the one or more user inputs that specify the plurality of rows of the first table; and

act (A) further comprises an act of: (5) in response to receiving the value from the user, for each of the plurality of rows, setting the cell for the first column equal to the received value.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the first object type has a first data type, and act (A) further comprises acts of:

(5) determining an editing control appropriate for the first data type; and

(6) providing the editing control on the display to enable the user to enter the user-specified value for the specified column.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the second table includes only a single row.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein act (A) further comprises:

(5) displaying a scroll bar on the display, the scroll bar shared by the first table and the second table.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 , wherein act (A)(4) includes:

displaying the second table at a position on the display such that each column of the second table is vertically aligned on the display with its corresponding column of the first table.

11. (Original) The method of claim 5 , wherein act (A)(4) includes:

displaying the second table at a position on the display such that each column of the second table is vertically aligned on the display with its corresponding column of the first table.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer system for enabling a user to set a value ~~for~~ across a plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types on a communications network, the system comprising:

a user interface to enable the user to indicate a ~~first~~ user-specified value for which to set the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types by specifying the ~~first~~ user-specified value only once; and

a message component to initiate setting ~~a~~ the value of each member of the set of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types equal to the ~~first~~ user-specified value, wherein the user interface is operable to:

control concurrently displaying values of network objects, including values of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types, to the user;

instructions for receiving ~~receive one or more~~ user inputs~~, the one or more user inputs specifying~~ to concurrently select a set of the plurality of network objects representing the one or

more portions of the plurality of different network device types, the set of the plurality of network objects having a value the user desires to set to the user-specified value; and

instructions for receiving ~~receive a~~ the user-specified value from the user for the set of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein a first network object of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types resides on a first network device and a second network object of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types resides on a second network device,

wherein the message component is operable to initiate a transmission of a first message, destined for the first network device, configured to set a value of the first network object to the ~~first~~ user-specified value, and to initiate a transmission of a second message, destined for the second network device, configured to set a value of the second network object to the ~~first~~ user-specified value.

14. (Original) The s ystem of claim 12, wherein the user interface includes a graphical user interface.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 ~~15~~, wherein:

the user interface includes a first table component to control displaying a first table to a user on a display, the first table including a plurality of rows and at least a first column representing a first object type of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types, each of plurality of the rows including a cell for the first column that stores a value for one of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types; and

a second table component to control displaying a second table to the user on the display concurrently to displaying the first table, the second table including one or more columns, each column of the second table corresponding to a respective one of the columns of the first table,

and operable to receive the user-specified value from the user for a column of the second table that corresponds to the first column of the first table.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the first table component is operable to receive the one or more user inputs that specify the plurality of rows of the first table, and wherein the second table component is operable, in response to receiving the user-specified value from the user, to control the first table component to set the cell in the first column in each of the plurality of rows equal to the received user-specified value.

18. (Original) T he system of claim 16, wherein the first object type has a first data type, and wherein the second table component is operable to determine an editing control appropriate for the first data type and to provide the editing control on the display to enable the user to enter the value for the specified column.

19. (Original) The s ystem of claim 16, wherein the second table includes only a single row.

20. (Original) The s ystem of claim 16, wherein the user interface further comprises:

a scroll bar component to control displaying a scroll bar to the user, the scroll bar shared by the first table and the second table.

21. (Original) The s ystem of claim 20, wherein the second table component is operable to control displaying the second table to the user at a position on the display such that each column of the second table is vertically aligned on the display with its corresponding column of the first table.

22. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein act (A)(4) includes:

displaying the second table at a position on the display such that each column of the second table is vertically aligned on the display with its corresponding column of the first table.

23. (Currently Amended) A physical computer-readable medium having computer-readable signals stored thereon that define instructions that, as a result of being executed by a computer, instruct the computer to perform a method of enabling a user to set a value ~~for~~ across a plurality

of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types on a communications network, the method comprising acts of:

(A) providing a user interface that enables the user to indicate a ~~first~~ user-specified value for which to set the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types by specifying the ~~first~~ user-specified value only once, wherein the act of providing a user interface comprises the acts of:

(1) concurrently displaying values of network objects on a display, including values of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types, to the user;

(2) receiving ~~one or more~~ user input~~s, the one or more user inputs~~ to concurrently select a set of~~specifying~~ the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types, the set of the plurality of network objects having a value the user desires to set to the user-specified value; and

(3) receiving ~~a~~ the user-specified value from the user for the set of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types; and

(B) in response to receiving an instruction from the user, initiating setting ~~a~~ the value of each member of the set of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types equal to the ~~first~~ user-specified value.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer system for enabling a user to set a value for a plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types on a communications network, the system comprising:

means for enabling the user to indicate a ~~first~~ user-specified value for which to set the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types by specifying the ~~first~~ user-specified value only once, wherein the means for enabling the user to indicate a ~~first~~ user-specified value includes:

(1) means for concurrently displaying values of network objects on a display, including values of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types, to the user;

(2) means for receiving ~~one or more~~ user inputs~~, the one or more user inputs~~ to concurrently select a set of ~~specifying~~ the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types, the set of the plurality of network objects having a value the user desires to set to the user-specified value; and

(3) means for receiving ~~a~~ the user-specified value from the user for the set of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types; and

a message component to initiate setting ~~a~~ the value of each member of the set of the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types equal to the ~~first~~ user-specified value.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the first network device is a different network device than the second network device.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the first network device is a different network device than the second network device.

27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the value comprises a common value across the plurality of network objects representing the one or more portions of the plurality of different network device types.